

ABSTRACT

A lens assembly is constructed to accommodate certain, often competing, design characteristics. The lens assembly provides high optical performance in a compact and easy to manufacture system. The lens assembly allows a manufacturer to produce a system that is common among various aperture sizes so that manufacturability is enhanced. The lens assembly is also suitable for use in connection with additional components, such as filters and/or electronic detectors, such as CCD's and/or CMOS's. The lens assembly may be arranged to provide a relatively wide angle, such as approximately 40 degrees, with minimal distortion, for example, less than 1%. a ratio of the length of the lens assembly to the back focal length of approximately 1.39 to accommodate additional components, such as optical filters. The lens assembly may be configured as a four group, six element, lens assembly. The lens assembly may contain compensating aberrations to compensate the aberrations of plane parallel plates that may be used in connection with the lens assembly.

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